MARVEL

004

KORVAC SAGA™

ABNETT SCHMIDT PETER

SECRET WARS

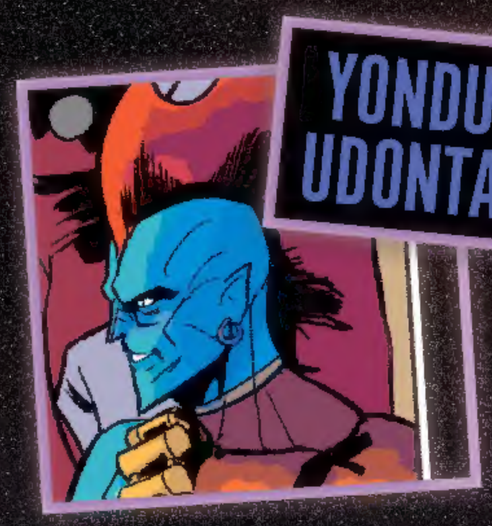
THE MULTIVERSE WAS DESTROYED...ALL THAT REMAINS IS
BATTLEWORLD!

GUARDIANS - DUTY ROSTER:

STARHAWK
(MANSION SANCTUM OVERWATCH)

MAJOR VICTORY
(MOBILE COMMAND)

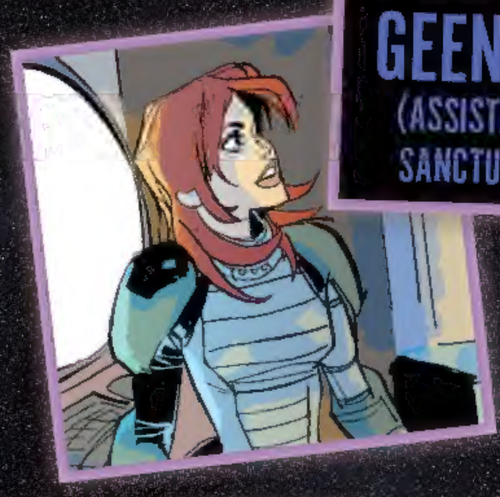
CHARLIE-27



YONDU UDONTA

MARTINEX

NICHOLETTE GOLD



GEENA DRAKE
(ASSISTANCE, MANSION SANCTUM OVERWATCH)

THE FOLLOWING SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS ARE EXPECTED FOR DUTY ROTATION AS OF 6:00 AM WEDNESDAY:

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FROM GUARDIANS OVERWATCH, THE MANSION (SANCTUM)
FOR IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION - ALL SECURITY DIVISIONS
REFERENCE: THE MADNESS

FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF CARINA KORVAC, A RESULT OF HER SUCCUMBING TO THE MADNESS, SECURITY PROVISION TO BE RAISED TO "OMEGA STAR" LEVEL, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY. ANY OUTBREAK OR SYMPTOMATIC BEHAVIOR IS TO BE REPORTED WITHOUT DELAY. CONTAINMENT MEASURES IN FORCE. PRIORITY REPORTS TO GUARDIANS OVERWATCH (SANCTUM) OR MAJOR VICTORY.

THE WELFARE OF VISITING BARON SIMON WILLIAMS ("WONDER MAN") AND HIS ESCORT OF AVENGERS IS SECOND TO THE TASK OF DISCOVERING THE SOURCE OF THE MADNESS. INTERFERENCE IN STATE MATTERS BY WILLIAMS/AVENGERS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.

IDENTIFYING ORIGIN OF THE MADNESS REMAINS A PRIORITY. NOTHING MUST TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER FINDING THE SOURCE OF THE MADNESS AND ERADICATING IT.

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FOREST HILLS.

THE WORLD IS A *LIE.*

CONTAIN HIM.

WAIT, BARON WILLIAMS, *WE--*

KORVAC IS THE *SOURCE* OF THE MADNESS. HE IS A THREAT TO US. HE IS A THREAT TO *EVERYTHING,* MAJOR VICTORY.

AND HE IS AN *ABOMINATION* IN THE EYES OF DOOMLAW.

IF WE DO NOT STOP HIM, WE WILL HAVE *FAILED* GOD DOOM.

I SAID, CONTAIN MICHAEL KORVAC. *NOW.*

CONTAIN ME?

OH, SIMON...

...I COULDN'T CONTAIN ME.

INSIDE.

STARHAWK, WHAT DO YOU *MEAN* IT'S BARON KORVAC?

MICHAEL KORVAC IS THE SOURCE OF THE PSIONIC RAGE.

IT IS EMANATING FROM HIS *SUBCONSCIOUS.*

HE WAS *SUPPRESSING* IT?

NO, MOONDRAGON.

IT WAS *UNNATURALLY SUPPRESSED* WITHIN HIM.

HOW? BY *WHAT?*

SIR, YOU SHOULD *REST--*

--WHOA!

THERE WILL BE NO REST FOR *ANY* OF US TONIGHT, GEENA DRAKE.

WHAMMM

SUSPEND YOUR ACTIVITIES **IMMEDIATELY,** BARON MICHAEL KORVAC. **YOU** ARE THE THREAT TO DOOMLAW AND--

I HAVE HELD MYSELF IN CHECK FOR ***TOO LONG.***

I WILL PUT DOWN ***ANYONE*** WHO TRIES TO CONTAIN ME. EVEN ***YOU,*** JOCASTA.

WHY DON'T YOU SEE? ***DOOM*** IS THE OBSCENITY! I AM THE ONLY HOPE OF ***SALVATION!***

IF YOU FIGHT ME, YOU ARE FIGHTING THE POSSIBILITY OF ***REDEMPTION!***

YOU ARE ***COMPLICIT*** IN THE LIE!

→SKKZZRRKKTT←

SIR! ***PLEASE!*** DON'T ***DO*** THIS--

YOU ARE *PATHETIC*, CHARLES!

YOU DO NOT *PLEAD* WITH A MONSTER, YOU *FIGHT* IT.

DAMMIT, HERCULES--WE NEED TO *COORDINATE* OUR EFFORTS!

DON'T JUST RUSH--

I'LL SHOW YOU *HOW.*

MMHN!

THIS WORLD IS WRONG, HERCULES. IT IS NOT *MEANT* TO EXIST.

DOOM IS *EVIL*, AND ONLY *I* CAN OPPOSE HIM.

I DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU...*ANY* OF YOU. BUT I STAND FOR LIFE AND ORDER, AND IF YOU SIDE *AGAINST* ME, YOU ARE PAWNS OF DOOM AND *YOU WILL FALL.*

GAHH-KK-KCHK--!

NO, MICHAEL.

MMFF!

YOUR POWER HAS *CONSUMED* YOU.

YOU ARE NOT IN YOUR RIGHT MIND.

SIMON, MY OLD FRIEND...

...I ASSURE YOU...

...I AM SANER THAN I'VE *EVER* BEEN.

THUK

WHUNNNCCCHHH

I CAN'T *FIGHT* MICHAEL KORVAC.

WE DON'T HAVE A *CHOICE,* VANCE!

HE IS A CLEAR *CLASS-ONE* THREAT.

IF WE STOP HIM, THE MADNESS *ENDS!*

NO! *YOU* HEARD WHAT HE SAID--!

HE'S FIGHTING BACK BECAUSE YOUR AVENGERS ARE *ATTACKING* HIM!

USE YOUR DAMN *WEAPONS,* GIRL!

USE YOUR *KILL SHOTS!*

BUT IT'S *KORVAC...!*

UGHK!

EMOTION BETRAYS YOU, NICHOLETTE GOLD.

BAM BAM

BAM BAM

WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO TARGET KORVAC WITH *ALL* THE LETHAL FORCE AT OUR DISPOSAL!

THWK

THWAPP

PLLF

SPPPTT

DAMN YOU, BLACK WIDOW! NO!

NUUHK!

TRUE COLORS-- YOU SIDE WITH YOUR HERETIC LORD, NIKKI?

AGHH! N-NOO!

WHUUNNG

MMMCHH!

THIS FIGHT ENDS HERE. RIGHT *HERE.* RIGHT *NOW.*

MICHAEL KORVAC IS A GOOD MAN--

VANCE, HOW CAN YOU EVEN *BEGIN* TO THINK THAT?

YOU'RE A *FOOL!* BLINDED BY LOYALTY AND--

DON'T *EVEN* TRY IT, BLACK PANTHER.

NONE OF YOU.

MICHAEL KORVAC IS *NOT* THE ENEMY.

UDONTA. YOU *WOULDN'T.*

I AM NOT.

AND I AM *TRULY* SORRY THAT MY POWER HAS CAUSED SUCH CALAMITY.

YOU *KNOW* THAT IT HAS COST ME. MY BELOVED WIFE CARINA'S *DEATH...*

I CARRY THE BURDEN OF A *TERRIBLE* TRUTH. CONCEALED IT, EVEN FROM MYSELF.

BUT IT *MUST* BE KNOWN.

I'M SORRY, MY LORD, BUT I THINK YOU ARE *DAMAGED.*

YOU *SAVED* ME FROM THE MADNESS, A DEBT I WILL *NEVER* BE ABLE TO REPAY.

BUT I FEAR YOU CANNOT SAVE *YOURSELF.*

NO, MAR-VELL. I *KNOW* MYSELF NOW.

MY LORD SPEAKS THE TRUTH...

...TERRIFYING THOUGH IT IS.

MY APOLOGIES, SIR, FOR MY DELAY IN REACHING YOUR SIDE. MY STRENGTH IS ONLY JUST RETURNING.

LIKE MAR-VELL, I AM ONLY ALIVE THANKS TO *YOU*.

I KNEW YOU WERE A POTENT PSYKER, LORD. I HAD NO IDEA *HOW* POWERFUL

YOUR POWER HAS BEEN LOCKED INSIDE YOU, *FIGHTING* TO GET OUT

I WAS BLIND TO IT, STAKAR.

IT *LEAKED* FROM YOU. IT *CONTAMINATED* OTHERS. YOU COULDN'T HOPE TO CONTAIN WHAT YOU DID NOT *UNDERSTAND*.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND *ANYTHING*, STAKAR. THIS WORLD, THIS *REALITY*...

...*IT'S NOT HOW THINGS WERE!*

IT'S NOT HOW THINGS ARE *SUPPOSED* TO BE!

PLEASE, CAN YOU SHOW THEM?

I WILL TRY

MOONDRAGON? WILL YOU AMPLIFY MY THOUGHTS?

YES.

WITCH! YOU *GO ALONG* WITH THIS?

AGH!

THERE WERE *STARS* ONCE. A COSMOS. A UNIVERSE A *MULTIVERSE*.

MHH!

WORLDS COLLIDED. UNIVERSES BROKE.

SOMETHING *TOOK* ALL OF CREATION AND REDUCED IT TO THIS *ONE WORLD.*

DOOM. *DOOM* TOOK IT ALL.

I SAW THIS. IN UNION WITH YOUR MIND ON THE ASTRAL PLANE, I *SAW* THIS.

YOU HID YOUR POWER FROM DOOM.

HE WOULD HAVE *OBLITERATED* YOU AS A THREAT IF HE HAD KNOWN YOUR TRUE POTENTIAL.

YOU HID SO YOU COULD REGAIN YOUR STRENGTH AND *OVERTHROW* HIS TYRANNY.

YOU HID UNTIL YOU COULD *UNDO* HIS WORK AND *REMAKE* THE UNIVERSE.

I HID TOO *WELL.*

I HID EVEN FROM *MYSELF.*

STAKAR...

...I AM NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO CHALLENGE GOD DOOM YET. NOTHING *LIKE* STRONG ENOUGH. I CANNOT CONTROL MYSELF.

IF I CONTEND WITH HIM, *EVERYTHING* WILL BE DESTROYED.

I CAN'T JUST TAKE DOOM DOWN.

THIS WORLD IS *ALL* THAT REMAINS OF EVERYTHING.

I HAVE TO BE STRONG ENOUGH TO REMOVE HIM *AND* REPLACE HIM.

I HAVE TO HOLD THIS PATCHWORK REALITY TOGETHER SO THAT *LIFE* CAN SURVIVE.

BUT IT'S TOO LATE.

DOOM KNOWS ME.

DOOM HAS SEEN ME *MANIFEST.*

SKKKRRKKKKKTTKT

BATTLEWORLD MUST BE CLEANSED.

PURGE THIS PLACE. PURGE *EVERYTHING.*

HE HAS SENT THE *THORS* TO PUNISH ME.

MICHAEL KORVAC.

RECEIVE NOW YOUR *PUNISHMENT.*

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE WILL OF YOUR MAKER, YOU ARE DECLARED *SCHISMATIC* AND A *HERETIC.*

I WILL NOT GO QUIETLY.

I REJECT DOOM'S LIES!

STOP THIS! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING!

WE KNOW PRECISELY WHAT WE'RE DOING, HERETIC...

WE ARE EXECUTING THE WILL OF GOD DOOM.

UGHHNN!

FIGHT, CHARLES!

→GUHHKK←

MAR-VELL!

THWWWGCHH

I AM BARON SIMON WILLIAMS OF THE HOLY WOOD DOMAIN!

STOP THIS! I DEMAND YOU STOP!

WE ARE LOYAL SERVANTS OF DOOMSTADT! I--

THEY ALWAYS CLAIM THAT.

KRRRRRRR-- DOOOOOOOM

STAKAR! AVENGERS! MY GUARDIANS!

KEEP FIGHTING!

STAKAR!

NOOOOOO!

"WE COULD *NEVER* WIN.
WE COULD ONLY *DIE*.

"DOOM HAS PREVAILED. THE FOREST HILLS AND THE HOLY WOOD ARE GONE, ***BURNED OFF*** THE FACE OF THE PLANET.

"THE THORS DID THEIR WORK."

A STRATEGIC WITHDRAWAL WAS REQUIRED.

THEY THINK WE'RE DEAD.

WE ***WERE*** DEAD, STARHAWK.

YES. AND KORVAC GAVE US OUR LIVES BACK, VANCE.

HIS FINAL ACT. HE USED HIS LAST RESERVE OF POWER TO ***RESTORE US*** RATHER THAN FIGHT ON.

IS KORVAC... ***DEAD?***

OBLITERATED, ACCORDING TO THE WILL OF DOOM.

OR FLED AND HIDING BETTER THAN HE HAS ***EVER*** HIDDEN BEFORE.

WHY DID HE SAVE US?

WE ARE PARIAHS. ***OUTCASTS.*** IF DOOMLAW FINDS US, WE--

WE MUST MAKE SURE THEY DO ***NOT,*** MARTINEX.

DOOM IS ALL POWERFUL, BUT HE IS ***NOT*** OMNISCIENT. WE WILL BEFRIEND THE SHADOWS AND THE EMPTY PLACES, AND ***NEVER*** STOP MOVING.

WE MUST GO TO GROUND, AND USE THE MISMATCHED GEOGRAPHY OF THIS BATTLEWORLD TO ***CLOAK*** US.

SO THIS IS *ALL* A LIE, SIR? THIS WORLD? THIS REALITY?

IT'S ALL A *TRICK?*

THE COMPRESSED VESTIGE OF A GLORIOUS UNIVERSE THAT ONCE WAS.

WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO *DO* ABOUT THAT?

MAJOR VICTORY IS RIGHT...*WHY* DID KORVAC SAVE US?

SO THAT WE COULD BE *THE GUARDIANS.*

OF WHAT?

THE GALAXY.

THE UNIVERSE THAT WAS.

THE *TRUTH.*

AS LONG AS WE LIVE, THE LIGHT OF THE STARS WILL NOT GO OUT AND THERE WILL *REMAIN* A HOPE.

WE ARE THE ONES WHO KNOW.

MARVEL

ZONE